

Welcome to Mad Hot Ballroom

A beginner class where you will learn it all!!

Includes: Tango, Merengue, Foxtrot, Waltz and more . . .

Instructed by Chad Lakridis

Please take the time to read this introduction to the Mad Hot Ballroom class, as it addresses many of the questions that new students (and their parents) in the MHB class have asked in past sessions. If you have additional questions, please let us know – best is by email to roni@dancewithchad.com – so that we can both answer your question AND include this information in our next version of this handout.

Class Goals:

In this class, students will be introduced to basic steps and technique in a variety of dances – usually including waltz, foxtrot, tango, merengue, disco/hustle, and possibly cha-cha, swing, paso doble, quickstep, salsa, and others. Classes are engaging, fun, and will challenge and reward students at all levels of skill and training. Techniques of movement are taught together with steps to develop a strong basis for continued dance experience and training. Our ultimate goal is for students to learn to love dance (and to love to learn dance!)

You can expect from the class . . .

We will provide a high-quality, fun learning experience for your child, treat you and your child with respect, and act at all times with professionalism.

Expectations of students:

In order for all class participants to have the best possible experience, we have the following expectations: ***Students really need to arrive on time (a few minutes before the scheduled start time), ready to enter the class (shoes on, bathroom needs attended to, cell phones off or left with parents or the instructor, water bottles filled and available, etc.).*** Chad will invite students into the class, at which time students are expected to pay attention, avoid disruptive behavior (chatting, playing), and cooperate with the instructor, his assistants and with other students in the class. Students who wish to excuse themselves from a class activity (being asked to change roles, or doing a particular dance, or if they are just tired) can ask to sit out a particular activity, and then can ask to join back in when they are ready. Whether active in the class, or sitting out, everyone in the class is expected to pay attention, cooperate, and avoid disruption. If a student needs to leave the room for any reason, they must let the instructor know – this is an important safety rule! When class is over, we thank each other and the instructor.

Expectations of parents:

Please explain and reinforce these expectations with your child. An important way to ensure that your child has the best possible experience is to ***help your child arrive on time and ready to begin.*** We generally invite parents to observe the first class of the term, and parents are

normally invited to a class demonstration on the last class of the term. For other classes, parents are asked to wait outside the room – this facilitates students paying attention while in the class. We ask that parents who need to discuss anything with Chad wait until class is dismissed. Many questions, especially about schedules, are easily answered by Chad's assistants – please consider asking an assistant your question first, so that Chad can devote his attention to the students as much as possible. Email roni@dancewithchad.com at any time with questions or comments about the class.

Shoes:

It is not necessary for class participants to purchase dance shoes. ***Students should NOT, however, wear flip-flops, loose slip-ons or shoes without backs.*** If students have dance shoes they should wear them; if not, best are shoes with hard leather or other smooth soles that don't 'stick' during turns. Sneakers are acceptable, but care must be taken to avoid knee stress when turning in shoes that grip or stick to the floor.

Other Dance Opportunities:

We will keep you informed about dance opportunities available for MHB students. These include:

- A group dance at the end of the term for all students in Chad's City of Tempe dance classes (information will be provided during the term);
- Chad occasionally organizes dance parties to which juniors (under 16) are admitted free;
- Opportunity for private, semi-private and small group classes with Chad;
- Chad periodically organizes workshops with top instructors from around the US to which MHB students can often also come;
- Several MHB students engaged in more serious private and semi-private instruction and coaching with Chad participate in pro-am and amateur dance competition; if you would like more information about competition dancing contact roni@dancewithchad.com
- Chad hosts an internet radio show Saturdays at 10 am; go to www.danceislifelifedance.com for more information and to listen live or download any of the shows already broadcast;
- A summary of the steps learned in each of Chad's Tempe dance classes is available at www.tempe.gov/arts/art/materials.htm

For information on these and other opportunities, check out Chad's webpage at www.dancewithchad.com, or email roni@dancewithchad.com

Instructor Information:

Chad Lakridis is certified in all styles of dance and through organizations including: the Terpsichore, the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance (ISTD), the World Professional Dance Teachers Association, the National Dance Council of America (NDCA), the U.S. National Swing Dance Council (all styles) and is a Professional Charter Member of Dancesport. In addition, he has held numerous competitive titles and championships. Chad is NLP Master Certified.